田倉トヲル
Taqura Tohru

「セロ・メロウ」「拝啓、兄さん様」
「こいものがたり①」大好評発売中!!

こいものがたり

第10話

YUIJI, PLEASE SAVE ME
IT'S BEEN A WHILE... SINCE THE HAUNTED HOUSE?
WELL, THAT WASN'T THAT LONG AGO...
OH
WHAT'S UP, YAMATO?
Ah, Yuiji?
ACTUALLY, THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED YOUR HELP WITH...
AH, YEAH... I GUESS YOU CAN HEAR IT IN MY VOICE...
What's wrong? Did something happen?
IT'S FINE SO JUST TELL ME
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'RE SPEAKING SO SERIOUSLY
STRAIGHT TO THE POINT...
Pfft
Probably right now
I'm a little jealous of your earnestiess
WELL, I GUESS I DON'T KNOW...
I MEAN, THE REASON CHANGES A LOT
THANKS
...
Yuiji, why are you always doing things for me?
SEEZ YOU... AGAIN WITH THIS QUESTION?

YUIJI, ARE YOU OKAY WITH IT?
...!
YOU'RE ALWAYS LISTENING TO ME COMPLAIN
...!
I'M NOT REALLY THE TYPE TO SHOW MY DISDAIN ON THE OUTSIDE
I'M BAD THAT KIND OF THING SO I JUST TRY AND ACT ABOVE IT ALL
If that's the case, aren't I one of the reasons you act like that?
I'm always looking lame in front of you
you have a good reason to act like that
THERE HAVE EVEN BEEN TIMES WHEN I'VE TOLD PEOPLE
THINGS THAT I'VE CONS-TANTLY BEEN PONDERING AND THEY END UP TAKING WHAT I SAY THE WRONG WAY
IT HAPPENED WHEN I TALKED TO YOU

This time I'll be the one listening
...WELL, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW
LIKE IF THERE'S SOMETHING I CAN DO, THEN I WANT TO DO IT
Heh
well, I'm probably not that reliable though
He said that even though I have nothing I really want to talk about
His desire to tell me made me thank you in such simple way
YAMATO

I THINK I'M NOT GOOD AT RELATIONSHIPS
I THINK TOO HARD ABOUT THINGS AND END UP UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING
EVEN THOUGH I COULD DO THINGS WITHOUT THINKING BEFORE
I THINK I'M TOO COLD AND I BECOME UNPLEASANT
YUIJI!
YUI...
HEEEY!
YUI-JI-KUN LEEET'S GO PLAAAY!

SORRY, KYOUSUKE'S HERE
GEEZ, IT'S AS EMBARRASSING AS I THOUGHT IT'D BE
GUYS AREN'T MEANT TO TALK ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS.I CAN ONLY DO IT BECAUSE IT'S ON THE PHONE
MESSAGE ME LATER ABOUT WHATEVER YOU NEEDED ME TO HELP YOU WITH
BYE THEN
THANKS, YAMATO
LATE! YOU'RE LATE! IT LOOKS LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE ALREADY ARRIVED
WHAT THE HELL IS WITH THAT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GREETING...
EHH? BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T ANSWERING YOUR PHONE
I THOUGHT YOU WERE ASLEEP
AHAH
SO HE'LL TELL ME THE DETAILS THE DAY OF
Yamato
And
I don't think you're cold

NAH, YAMATO
ME? WHAT ABOUT ME?
YEAH, YEAH, I LIKE YOU TOO
YUUJI LIKES YOSHINAGA A LOT, HUH~
YEP, I LIKE HIM
EHEHEH~
THEN
HOW ABOUT-
...MAYU-CHAN?
HM?
MAYU-CHAN?
.....
KYOUSUKE...
IS THAT SO?
...YEAH
I REALLY LIKE HER
I like her
Ehe...
YOU THOUGHT I DIDN'T NOTICE?
I HAVEN'T BEEN YOUR FRIEND FOR THIS LONG FOR NOTHING!

ME TOO, I LIKE BOTH YUIJI AND MAYU-CHAN
SO I WANT YOU TWO TO WORK OUT SOME WAY OR ANOTHER
BUT IF THAT CAN'T HAPPEN
LIKE IF YOU DID SOMETHING WRONG
I'M ON YOUR SIDE, OKAY?
NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS, HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS ARE LIKE THAT
SO DON'T WORRY, JUST DEAL WITH THINGS HOW YOU WANT
WHACK
WAH
IDIOT...

Nothing good will come out of it
Deceiving her any longer
...YOUR SIMPLICITY IS AMAZING SOMETIMES
I SHOULD FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE
GLOMP
RIGHT, RIGHT~?
ANYWAY~ JUST ACCEPT MY LOVE TOO
NOT JUST YOSHINAGA'S~
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT WITH YAMATO
HE HAS VARIOUS TROUBLES TOO
TROUBLES~?
HUH... YOU'RE ALLIES...
OKAY
MEEEP MEEEP
EH, WHAT~ IS YOSHINAGA FIGHTING AGAINST SOME EVIL ORGANIZATION?
YEP YEP! HE'S FIGHTING, THAT'S FOR SURE
EH~?
SOMEHOW, IT MAKES SENSE
I'LL BE ON YAMATO'S SIDE TOO, THEN
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YAMATO WELL
It's better not to think too deeply. it's already too late to complain about stuff like this
But already I probably can't leave Yamato alone, nor do I want to
MEEEP

I have a feeling that there's no turning back now
SO, WHAT'S UP? WHAT DID YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU WITH?
UHHHM
WELL ABOUT THAT...
AH YUIJI, OVER HERE!
YO
THANKS FOR COMING
NAH IT'S FINE, I WAS FREE
OH NO, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
NOW THAT WE'RE ABOUT TO DO IT, I FEEL LIKE WE'RE ABOUT TO DO SOMETHING OUTRAGEOUS
O!
IF IT'S JUST A STUPID REQUEST, I'M GOING TO LEAVE THE MINUTE YOU SAY IT
MY EXPECTATIONS ARE HIGHER NOW, TOO
JUST
WAIT A BIT FOR ME TO PREPARE MY HEART SO I CAN SAY IT
SORRY
AN ALLY, HUH? I SPOKE TOO SOON...
ESPECIALLY CALLING ME OUT LIKE THIS...
STOP FUCKING AROUND
UNDERSTOOD...
WELL, SOME THINGS HAPPENED, AND WE WERE OUTED TO AKIYAMA TOO
OH, REALLY?
BEFORE I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE GAY FRIEND I MADE, THIS IS WHERE HE LIVES
AH, THAT'S REMINDS ME, I'M IN CRAM SCHOOL WITH AKIYAMA TOO
AND SO, JUST AHEAD IS THE APARTMENT COMPLEX I WAS TALKING ABOUT
STEP
STEP

FOR NOW, WE'RE LUCKY AND THINGS ARE GOING SMOOTHLY, BUT WE CAN'T COUNT ON THAT FOR LONG, RIGHT?
THE TIME WHEN I FEEL LIKE I HAVE TO CARRY THIS BURDEN ALONE ARE GRADUALLY BECOMING SHORTER
EVEN SO
WHILE ON ONE HAND, FEEL LIKE THAT'S DANGEROUS
I DON'T THINK ABOUT GOING BACK TO HOW I WAS BEFORE
.....
I'M STARTING TO FEEL A LITTLE LESS NERVOUS ABOUT IT
I DON'T THINK THERE'S SUCH A THING AS BEING TOO CAREFUL
RIGHT
BUT, WE..L
AFTER ALL THIS
YOU'VE BECOME A BIT COOLER
SOMEHOW
COOL..?
ME?
HEY, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU THINKING
THEN, PLEASE

YUIJI
WILL YOU BE GIRLFRIEND?
I'M GOING HOME
I'M REALLY SORRY! WAIT! LET ME EXPLAIN!
Step
Step
Step
Step
Step
Sigh
YAMATO...
YES
You did this on purpose
Shine
IS THIS WHAT YOU WERE PREPARING YOUR HEART FOR?

IT LOOKS LIKE SHE ACCEPTS HIM, BUT SHE ALSO SEEMS TO THINK IT'S 'FOR THE TIME BEING

MY GAY FRIEND. HIS NAME IS SAKURA

HE SAID HIS MOTHER KNOWS HE'S GAY

Meeep Meeep

MEET HIS PARENTS?

Meeep

IT SEEMS LIKE HE WANTS TO BRING HIS MOTHER SOME PEACE OF MIND AND SHOW HER THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE HIM NEAR HIM AS WELL

THEREFORE HE NEEDS A HIGH SCHOOL COUPLE

THAT WOULD BE YOU AND ME

YES

THAT REMINDS ME—

IF YOU DID, I'D HIT YOU

Ha Ha

AHAHAH

THANK GOD

I WON'T DO ANY-THING WEIRD SO DON'T WORRY

Smile

SO WILL YOU BE MY GIRL-FRIEND?

WELL. IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN IT'S FINE

HEY, IT'S WHATEVER, MAN
IT WASN'T LIKE YOU THINK. HE DID THAT TOTALLY OUT OF HIS OWN ACCORD.
WELL. IT WASN'T ON PURPOSE
Embarrassing
NO, IT'S NOT I DON'T WANT YOU TO MIS-UNDERSTAND
OKAY
Blush...
IS SAKURA THE GUY WHO KISSED YOU BEFORE?
..AH
YOU SAW. ?
Meeep
SURE
OKAY
SHIT
THAT WAS PROBABLY A WEIRD WAY OF PHRASING IT
It's gotten awkward now
OKAY?
AH
I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK I'M A HALF-HEARTED GUY
Meeep
Meeep
Meeep
COME TO THINK OF IT THIS SHOULD BE A GIVEN BY NOW. BUT
Yuji helping me out like this so casually
definitely means

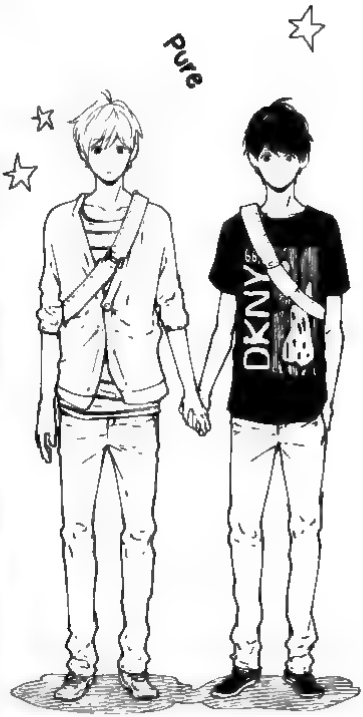
I have many reasons to think of Yuji as a true 'friend'
EH, HOW DO WE DO THAT
IS IT FINE IF WE DON'T HOLD HANDS?
DO WE REALLY LIKE A COUPLE LIKE THIS?
DON'T WE JUST LOOK NORMAL?
5
BY THE WAY-
BEEP
YOU SAY THAT, BUT HAVE ZERO EXPERIENCE..
WHAT DO I DO.
'HOW?' AREN'T YOU THE EXPERT?
DON'T REALLY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH IT
Sure
..SHOULD WE HOLD HANDS?
Is that okay?
OKAY, SORRY TO MAKE YOU DO THIS
Hold...
1
PING

Opens

PFFFT
!!
HAHA!
AHAHAH
Ah ha ha ha
WAIT A MINUTE, WHY ARE YOU BLUSHING SO HARD?
KNOW IT'S AS WEIRD AS THE HUG, MUCH MORE AWKWARD THAN I THOUGHT IT'D BE
Ha ha
, THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE! YOU WERE ACTING SO NORMA.. I COULDN'T LOOK AT YOU!
I WAS PRAYING SO HARD YOU WOULDN'T LOOK OVER HERE.
AH, THIS IS HILARIOUS-
Embarrassing——
6
DING
WE..L, AT LEAST THE AWKWARD ATMOSPHERE DISSIPATED RIGHT IN TIME
SHALL WE GO?
OPEN

Meeep
Meeep
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, BOYFRIEND
LEAVE IT TO ME
I'M REALLY ANXIOUS
ME TOO
PFFT
Meeep
Meeep
HEY
WHY THE HELL ARE YOU TWO HOLDING HANDS?

EH, I THOUGHT WE'D LOOK LIKE A COUPLE FOR SURE THIS WAY.
WELL SURE, BUT GAY COUPLES DON'T HOLD HANDS SO BRAZENLY USUALLY!
YOU TWO ARE WAY TOO SERIOUS! AHAHAHAH!


Pure
DKNY

Smack
YAMATO, YOU-LEARN THIS STUFF MORE!
SORRY, I'M JUST A BEGINNER, SO..
WE EMBARRASSED OURSELVES FOR NOTHING
WE CAN TELL..

YUIJ S FRIEND WITH AKIYAMA
There're from the same middle school
I'M SURE YAMATO'S EXPLAINED WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN, BUT THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION
I'M SAKURA
I'M HASEGAWA, NICE TO MEET YOU
OH, REALLY?
THE FACT THAT AMONG US THAT GUY'S THE ONLY ONE WHO WENT TO AN ALL BOY'S SCHOOL IS THE GREATEST MYSTERY OF OUR TIME
FOR REAL
DKNY

THE WAY YOU TWO ACT WITH EACH OTHER IS KINDA NICE
I'M A LITTLE JEALOUS

ARE YOU A TOLERANT PERSON?
I DON'T REALLY THINK IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT
IT PROBABLY DEPENDS ON THE SITUATION, WHO IT IS, HOW CLOSE WE ARE
WELL, I GUESS THAT'S TYPICAL
IN THE END, IT ALL COMES DOWN TO WHAT KIND OF PERSON THEY ARE, RIGHT?
HMM.
I THOUGHT HE'D QUICKLY SAY OF COURSE I'M TOLERANT
I was just thinking about how you're always straight-forward
What?
THOSE TWO THEY SOMEHOW LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER
Ha~
AN ANNOYING COUPLE
ALRIGHT, HERE WE GO
DON'T BE SURPRISED
OPEN

AH, SURE
ARE SWEETS OKAY? I JUST BOUGHT SOME CAKE
IT'S HOT, ISN'T IT?
OH MY, WELCOME!
SORRY THAT YOU HAD TO COME ALL THE WAY HERE~
HEY, ARE YOU TWO REALLY YOU KNOW?
IT'S STRANGE FOR HIM TO REQUEST SUCH A THING IN THE FIRST PLACE
MY BOY SAID I JUST HAD TO MEET YOU TWO NO MATTER WHAT
YES
A SAME-SEX COUPLE?
I SEE
BUT WE DEFINITELY INTEND ON TELLING THEM SOME DAY
NO, NOT YET
DO YOUR PARENTS KNOW?
REALLY?

SHINE
SHINE
SHINE
'COULD MY CHILD BE THAT WAY-?'
THEY'LL HAVE NEVER THOUGHT OF THE POSSIBILITY-!
IT MIGHT SURPRISE THEM TO DEATH-!
were my son
I'D BE SO WORRIED
WON'T THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU REALIZE YOU'RE DATING?
IT'S HARD SINCE YOU TWO ARE HIGH SCHOOLERS RIGHT?
Sakura's mother
seems so naturally accepting
At first glance

I THOUGHT SHE SEEMED LIKE A GOOD MOTHER.
THAT'S RIGHT, SHE'S A WONDERFUL MOTHER
I'm sure Sakura invited us over because he wanted to say something
MY MOTHER IS IMPOSSIBLE
EVEN WHEN I WAS OUTED BY MY COUSIN
IT SEEMED LIKE SHE WAS SO SEVERELY SHOCKED
AKIHITO
WHAT HE JUST SAID WAS A JOKE, RIGHT?
YOU'RE JUST MESSING WITH ME
OKAY I UNDERSTAND
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE OKAY
YOU SEE SO MUCH PEOPLE ON TV, IT'S NOT THAT STRANGE
DON'T WORRY
A PARENT MUST BE THEIR CHILD'S FIRST ALLY
RIGHT?
IT'S A LIE RIGHT?
AKIHITO
But
I was so scared of her reaction that I was overwhelmed with happiness and relief
I'll be okay

WHERE DID I GO WRONG ?
HE'S STILL A MIDDLE SCHOOLER, I WONDER IF HE WAS INFLUENCED BY SOMETHING STRANGE?
ONCE HE GROWS UP, HE MIGHT CHANGE
I'M SURE HE'LL DATE A NICE GIRL ONCE AND REALIZE HE WAS WRONG ALL ALONG
IT'LL BE OKAY
IT'S FINE
THAT'S WHY IT'S 'FOR THE TIME BEING'
YES
EVEN IF I'M SUPER OBVIOUS ABOUT IT OR REFUTE IT, SHE'LL THINK THAT
DKNY
PARENTS ARE ALWAYS MORE COMPLICATED THAN FRIENDS
SHE THINKS I'LL BE "CURE" SOMEHOW
THINKING I'LL CHANGE AND GO BACK TO NORMAL ONE DAY IS SO HARSH
THERE'S NO WAY SHE CAN KNOW IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT

IF YOU INTEND ON COMING OUT TO YOUR PARENTS
YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT THE TIMING AS A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH
YOU CAN TELL THEM ANY TIME, BUT ONCE IT'S OUT THERE, THERE'S NO GOING BACK
YOU GUYS SEEMS LIKE GOOD PEOPLE AFTER ALL
I JUST WANT HER TO GIVE UP
I DON'T WANT HER TO ACCEPT ME
I DON'T WANT HER TO UNDER-STAND ME
Hold...
I REGRET IT SO MUCH
I NEVER WANTED TO COME OUT
I WAS OUTED WELL BEFORE I HAD PLANNED ON TELLING HER, AND WELL.

was because he wanted to warn me

Coming out's not so clear cut and simple He wanted to warn me about the difficulty ——

DKNY
YAMATO, YOU GO ON AHEAD
(...)
IT'S AROUND KATASAKI STATION, SO YOU CAN LEAVE AFTER
WELL, SHOULD TREAT YOU BOTH FOR COMING ALL THIS WAY IS THE RESTAURANT WHERE I WORK OKAY?
YOU'RE REALLY TROUBLESOME.. HUH
I'VE STIRRED THINGS UP, HUH
I JUST WANTED TO CONVEY THIS MUCH TO YOU
SORRY FOR TRICKING YOU
!
GRAB
Smile
..YOU REALIZED?
I KNEW IF I TOLD HIM TO COME AS A COUPLE HE'D BRING YOU
I WANTED TO MEET YOU
HEY
THERE WERE NO POINT 'N YOU INVITING ME TODAY, WAS THERE?

HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S TRYING TO CHANGE, AND I'M FINE WITH HIM DOING WHATEVER HE WANTS, BUT..
BUT THAT IDIOT'S SERIOUSNESS AND STUBBORNNESS WILL WITHOUT A DOUBT CAUSE HIM PAIN
HE HAS TO BECOME MORE CUNNING
I MEAN THAT IN A POSITIVE WAY
IF YOSHINAGA CONTINUES LIKES THIS HE'LL BE IN DANGER
YOU NEED TO HELP HIM OUT SOMEHOW, OKAY? YOU'RE HIS FRIEND, RIGHT?
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT, ISN'T THERE NOTHING I CAN DO?
I DON'T NECESSARILY THINK THAT'S THE CASE
I THINK YOU HAVE THE GREATEST CHANCE OF MAKING SOMETHING HAPPEN
HUH!?
DO YOU LIKE HIM?
Yamato
NO FUCKING WAY!
YOSHINAGA AND I DON'T SUIT EACH OTHER AT ALL.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT

DON'T DISLIKE HIM.
. BUT
RATTLE
WHAT'S UP?
WHY ARE YOU HERE? WHY THE FUCK ARE YOU EATING IN MY SHOP?
OH, WE..L AREN'T YOU A WORKER WITH NO RESPECT FOR CUSTOMERS
HAHAH
ONLY S NCE AN ANNOYING VISITOR IS HERE
I GOT A FREE MEA.. FOR PARTI-CIPATING IN THE SAKURA RESCUE M.SSION
RIGHT, YOSHINAGA-KUN?
YEP
THAT'S WHY I CA..ED HIM
OR YOU COULD HAVE NOT
RELAX, TODAY YOU'RE THE CUSTOMER

WE-L-, S NCE I'-L BE TAKING THE MONEY FROM TH-S MEA- FROM SAKURA'S PAYCHECK, YOU A-- ORDER AS MUCH AS YOU -IKE!
A-RIGHT!!
YES!?
Why do I have to treat Akiyama too?
Ah ha ha
SERIOUSLY!
ALRIGHT THEN, TEMPURA PLATTER COMBO!
YOSHINAGA-KUN IS GETTING THE EEL
THEN I'-- DO THE COMBO SET MEA- WITH GRILLED MEAT-
FIRST OF A-, STOP ASKING THEM TO COMBO EVERYTHING!?
WE CAN'T EVEN DO THAT FOR THE GRILLED MEAT SET!
OH, THEN SHALL I GO FOR EVERY-THING ELSE WE HAVE YET TO MENTION?
STOP IT!!
ALRIGHT, THEN I WANT
ha ha

SAKURA-CHAN, WATER PLEASE!
WHAT THE HELL, YOU HAVE TWO HANDS, DON'T YOU?
EXCUSE-ME???
Bzzzt
Bzzzt
CLATTER
CLATTER
YO
OKAY YOU GUYS, I'M HEADING OUT
I HAVE SOME-WHERE TO BE AFTER THIS
OH, SEE YOU LATER
YOU'RE NOT CUTE AT ALL
YEAH, YEAH
.....
THANKS FOR TODAY, YUIJI
NO PROB-LEM
THOUGH I KEPT ASKING MYSELF WHY THE HELL I CAME
AHAHA
I'm sure Sorry
YUIJI
Touch

PLUCK
DKNY
HUH?
I'M JUST COPYING WHAT SEKI DOES
I THINK I UNDERSTAND WHY HE DOES IT NOW
Ahaha
THAT'S IT!
Meeep
RATTLE RATTLE
SEE YOU!
Mayu
I'll be waiting for you at Isodou Park at 5
Sorry, change of plans!
Sigh... we'll be out, anyways, let's go do homework!
Meeep
Pinch
YAMATO'S LACK OF SELF AWARENESS IS SCARY
Pfft
Meeep
Meeep

A..RIGHT, THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING!
IT'S FINE!
ALRIGHT, THANK YOU FOR COMING-
OH, SAKURA, SINCE YOU'RE HERE, DO YOU MIND STAYING TO HELP?
A..RIGHT, THEN SEE YOU LATER, SAKURA
Meeep
Meeep
Meeep
YOSHINAGA, YOU'RE FREE NOW, HUH?
AH, YES
DO YOU LIKE ANYONE?
AH
I'M NOT REALLY SURE RIGHT NOW.
I THOUGHT SO
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU NEED TO LEARN TO LIKE YOURSELF FIRST
EH, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN..
Grab

...JUST THE CHEEK IS FINE, RIGHT?
I HOPE EVERYTHING TURNS OUT WELL FOR YOU

Heh
THANK YOU...
HMM...

SWIPE
OH MY, WHAT BAD LUCK
THEIR FACES ARE OBSCURED
WELL, WHATEVER
IF IT ISN'T OUR CLASS HOTTIE
AS EXPECTED, HE'S POPULAR WITH MEN TOO
NEW YORK LOS ANGELES TOKYO
To Be Continued

The Anon

Translation by @Meidorin

Cleaning by Yoru